

In the Specification:

Please amend the Abstract on page 19 as follows:

A process for the oligomerization of ethylene to a mixture of olefinic products having high linearity is provided, by using a catalyst comprising a reaction product of a simple divalent nickel salt; a boron hydride reducing agent; a water soluble base; a ligand selected from the group consisting of an o-dihydrocarbylphosphinobenzoic acid and alkali metal salts thereof; and[[,]] a phosphite.